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House of Representatives

The House met at 2 p.m. and was called to order by the Speaker pro tempore (Mr. BUTTERFIELD).

DESIGNATION OF THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore laid before the House the following communication from the Speaker:

WASHINGTON, DC,

November 12, 2019.

I hereby appoint the Honorable G.K. BUTTERFIELD to act as Speaker pro tempore on this day.

NANCY PELOSI,

Speaker of the House of Representatives.

PRAYER

The Chaplain, the Reverend Patrick J. Conroy, offered the following prayer: Dear God, we give You thanks for giving us another day.

We ask Your special blessing upon the Members of the people's House. They face difficult decisions in difficult times, with many forces and interests demanding their attention.

Give them generosity to enter into their work. May they serve You in the work they do as You deserve, give of themselves and not count the costs, fight for what is best for our Nation and not count the political wounds, toil until their work is done and not seek to rest, and labor without seeking any reward other than knowing that they are doing Your will and serving the people of this great Nation.

Bless them, O God, and be with them and with us all this day and every day to come. May all that is done be for Your greater honor and glory.

Amen.

THE JOURNAL

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair has examined the Journal of the last day's proceedings and announces to the House his approval thereof.

Pursuant to clause 1, rule I, the Journal stands approved.

Mr. LARSEN of Washington. Mr. Speaker, pursuant to clause 1, rule I, I demand a vote on agreeing to the Speaker's approval of the Journal.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the Speaker's approval of the Journal.

The question was taken; and the Speaker pro tempore announced that the ayes appeared to have it.

Mr. LARSEN of Washington. Mr. Speaker, I object to the vote on the ground that a quorum is not present and make the point of order that a quorum is not present.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8, rule XX, further proceedings on this question will be postponed.

The point of no quorum is considered withdrawn.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Will the gentleman from Washington (Mr. LARSEN) come forward and lead the House in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mr. LARSEN of Washington led the Pledge of Allegiance as follows:

I pledge allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America, and to the Republic for which it stands, one nation under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all.

EX-IM REAUTHORIZATION

(Mr. LARSEN of Washington asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. LARSEN of Washington. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to express my support for H.R. 4863, the United States Export Finance Agency Act, which reauthorizes the Ex-Im Bank's charter for 10 years. The Ex-Im Bank is a proven job-creating success story.

For years, I have met with small- and medium-sized manufacturers in north-

west Washington State who rely on the Ex-Im Bank to compete in the global marketplace. Since 2014, companies, suppliers, and other manufacturers in my district who rely on the Ex-Im Bank have generated nearly \$24 billion in total export value.

Vista Clara Inc. in Mukilteo is a small, veteran-owned business which used Ex-Im funds to develop and manufacture advanced nuclear magnetic resonance, NMR, geophysical instruments for groundwater, environmental, and energy resources investigations.

The Ex-Im Bank levels the international playing field for U.S. exporters and workers, enabling them to respond to foreign competition when it is backed by export credit agency support. It also supports large manufacturers like Boeing, America's largest exporter.

I represent nearly 18,000 current employees at Boeing's Everett plant, which depends upon the Ex-Im Bank to support millions of dollars in total insured shipments, guaranteed credit, or disbursed loans.

The U.S. can be an attractive alternative to China by employing a strategic approach combining development assistance, ensuring protections for the environment and worker rights, and supporting good governance and the rule of law.

Mr. Speaker, I look forward to voting for H.R. 4863 this week to provide much-needed certainty for the Nation's manufacturers, and I urge my colleagues' support.

RECESS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 12(a) of rule I, the Chair declares the House in recess until approximately 4 p.m. today.

Accordingly (at 2 o'clock and 5 minutes p.m.), the House stood in recess.

□ This symbol represents the time of day during the House proceedings, e.g., □ 1407 is 2:07 p.m.

Matter set in this typeface indicates words inserted or appended, rather than spoken, by a Member of the House on the floor.



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